

VZCZCXRO5043
OO RUEHDT RUEHPB
DE RUEHKO #1103 1350454
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 150454Z MAY 09
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2975
INFO RUCNARF/ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE IMMEDIATE 7797
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA IMMEDIATE 6325
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO IMMEDIATE 4526
RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA IMMEDIATE 3995
RUEHIN/AIT TAIPEI IMMEDIATE 7334
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RHMFISS/USFJ IMMEDIATE
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 001103

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/15/2019

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [BM](#) [JA](#)

SUBJECT: JAPAN "SERIOUSLY CONCERNED" ABOUT TREATMENT OF SUU KYI

REF: STATE 46562

Classified By: Political Minister Counselor W. Michael Meserve per 1.4
(b/d)

11. (C) Japan is "seriously concerned" about the Burmese authorities' treatment of Aung San Suu Kyi (ASSK) and her transfer from house arrest to Insein Prison, Foreign Minister Hirofumi Nakasone said May 15. The Japanese Government has raised its concerns with the Burmese Ambassador and has called on the Burmese government to advance democracy with the participation of "all related people," including Suu Kyi, Nakasone added.

12. (C) MOFA Asia Deputy Director General Kazuhide Ishikawa told Embassy Tokyo May 15 that Asia Director General Inomata had called Burmese Ambassador Hla Myint earlier in the day to convey Japan's deep concern. Inomata told the Burmese ambassador that this is a "crucial time" for Burma's relations with the international community, including the United States and Japan, and that the Burmese authorities should take seriously the international community's concerns. In response, the Burmese ambassador reportedly echoed the Burmese Foreign Ministry's May 14 explanation of the legal charges against Suu Kyi and the legal process currently underway, Ishikawa said.

13. (C) Burma's actions come at a very bad time, Ishikawa continued. Japan has taken gradual steps encourage Burma to move towards greater democratization, but in light of this treatment of ASSK, "Japan's policy and efforts to date will have to be reconsidered; this will badly affect our future thinking," Ishikawa said. Southeast Asia I Director Keiichi Ono added that now is the time for the international community to speak out and try to positively shape the Burmese authorities' actions. "Once ASSK is sentenced, it will be too late to get them to change their minds," he predicted.
ZUMWALT